

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Psychologists
Managed Care Plans
CSO Administrators
Regional Administrators

Memorandum No: 03-33 MAA

Issued: June 16, 2003

For Information Call:
1-800-562-6188

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

Supersedes: 02-31 MAA

**Subject: Psychologists: Fee Schedule Changes and Discontinued State-Unique
Procedure Codes**

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2003, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) will:

- Implement the updated Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Data Base (MPFSDB) Year 2003 relative value units (RVUs); and
- **Discontinue** all state-unique procedure codes previously used in MAA's Psychologist Billing Instructions.

Maximum Allowable Fees

MAA is updating the fee schedule with Year 2003 RVUs. The 2003 Washington State Legislature has not appropriated a vendor rate increase for the 2004 state fiscal year. The maximum allowable fees have been adjusted to reflect the changes listed above.

Overview

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires all healthcare payers to process and pay electronic claims using a standardized set of procedure codes. In order to comply with HIPAA requirements, MAA is discontinuing all state-unique procedure codes and modifiers and will require the use of applicable CPT and HCPCS procedure codes.

Discontinued State-Unique Codes

For claims with dates of service after June 30, 2003, MAA will discontinue the following state-unique codes:

Discontinued State-Unique Code	Description
0070M	Psychological evaluation (testing included)
9089M	Certification activities related to elective inpatient psychiatric admission for clients under 21 years of age to an inpatient psychiatric facility. A psychologist may be reimbursed for these services as a member of the Certification Team.

Ⓔ Note: MAA will not reimburse for any of the state unique procedure codes above for claims with dates of service after June 30, 2003.

Billing for Psychological Evaluations

MAA will reimburse for psychological evaluations using CPT code 96100. Up to two (2) units of CPT code 96100 are allowed without prior authorization per client, per lifetime.

If additional testing is necessary, psychologists must request additional units of CPT code 96100 through the prior authorization process detailed in the Psychologist Billing Instructions.

Other Limitations

MAA reimburses for developmental testing (CPT codes 96110 and 96111) only when:

- The provider is a board-certified psychologist or neuropsychologist; **and**
- Written/fax prior authorization is obtained.

MAA reimburses for neuropsychological testing (CPT codes 96115 and 96117) only when:

- The provider is a board-certified neuropsychologist; **and**
- Written/fax prior authorization is obtained.

Attached are updated replacement pages 7-10 for MAA's Psychologist Billing Instructions, dated September 1998. To obtain DSHS/HRSA provider numbered memoranda and billing instruction, go to the DSHS/HRSA website at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov> (click ***the Billing Instructions and Numbered Memorandum*** link). These may be downloaded and printed.

Bill MAA your usual and customary charge.

Client Eligibility

Who is eligible?

Clients presenting Medical Assistance ID Cards with the following identifiers are eligible for psychological evaluations and certifications for psychiatric admission:

Medical Program Identifier	Medical Program
CNP	Categorically Needy Program
CNP CHIP	Categorically Needy Program - Children's Health Insurance Program
GA-U No Out of State Care	General Assistance - Unemployable
LCP-MNP	Limited Casualty Program-Medically Needy Program

Who is not eligible?

Clients presenting Medical ID Cards with the following identifiers are not eligible for psychological evaluations and certifications for psychiatric admission:

Medical Program Identifier	Medical Program
MIP-EMER Hospital Only – No out-of-state care	Medically Indigent Program-EMER Hospital Only - No out-of-state care
Family Planning Only	Family Planning Only

What about managed care clients?

Clients whose Medical ID Cards bear an identifier in the HMO column are enrolled in an MAA managed health care plan. Clients with identifiers in the HMO must have services performed at their designated HMO. Call the HMO telephone number located on the client's Medical ID Card. If the client's HMO refers them to you, the HMO must reimburse you for the services.

Coverage

What is covered?

The Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) reimburses licensed psychologists for:

- Psychological evaluations;
- Developmental testing; and
- Neuropsychological testing.

Psychological Evaluation

- A psychological evaluation includes a complete diagnostic history, examination, and assessment. The testing of cognitive processes, visual motor responses, and abstract abilities is accomplished by the combination of several types of testing procedures.
- In order to receive reimbursement for the evaluation, it is expected that the administration of the tests above will generate materials that will be formulated into a report.
- MAA will reimburse for psychological evaluations using **CPT code 96100**. Up to two (2) units of CPT code 96100 are allowed **without prior authorization per client, per lifetime**.
- If additional testing is necessary, psychologists must request additional units of CPT code 96100 through the prior authorization process.

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Developmental Testing

MAA reimburses for developmental testing (CPT codes 96110 and 96111) only when:

- The provider is a board-certified psychologist or neuropsychologist; **and**
- Written/fax prior authorization has been obtained.

Neuropsychological Testing

MAA reimburses for neuropsychological testing (CPT codes 96115 and 96117) only when:

- The provider is a board-certified neuropsychologist; **and**
- Written/fax prior authorization has been obtained

Obtaining Prior Authorization

Send or fax your request for prior authorization to:

MAA – Medical Operations
Attn: Medical Request Coordinator
PO Box 45506
Olympia, WA 98504-5506
FAX: (360) 586-1471

What is not covered?

MAA will ***not*** reimburse for:

- Psychotherapy provided by a psychologist or an ARNP; or
- Continuing care provided by psychologist or by staff employed by the psychologist.

Fee Schedule

Due to its licensing agreement with the American Medical Association, MAA publishes only the official, brief CPT procedure code descriptions. To view the entire descriptions, please refer to your current CPT book.

Procedure Code	Brief Description	July 1, 2003 Maximum Allowable Fee	
		Non-Facility Setting	Facility Setting
96100	Psychological testing	\$43.00	\$43.00
96105	Assessment of aphasia	Not covered	Not covered
96110	Developmental test, lim	43.00	43.00
96111	Developmental test, extend	43.00	43.00
96115	Neurobehavior status exam	43.00	43.00
96117	Neuropsych test battery	43.00	43.00